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ABSTRACT

This report outlines the activities of the New Mexico Office of Indian Affairs (OIA) for 1984 in accordance with its directive to investigate, study, consider and act upon the entire subject of Indian conditions and relations within the State of New Mexico, including but not restricted to, problems of health, economy, education, legislation, and local, state and federal government. Brief descriptions highlight OIA's 1984 efforts in: (1) legislative/governmental coordination, facilitation and negotiation (including analyzing bills, acts, etc., of the 36th Legislature's Special Session that would impact the State's Indian community, land claims and transfers, highway projects, conference and meeting planning, and field visits); (2) informational services ("The Source" newsletter, reports, seminars, studies and information assistance); (3) economic development and employment (including job training, tribal initiatives, tourism reports, labor contracts, etc.); (4) financial assistance (such as disaster funding, fire protection, mass transit funds, and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and Weatherization programs); (5) health (senior citizen and rehabilitation centers, the plague project, and health planning priorities); and (6) education (teacher training, Indian career day, and participation at the Indian Higher Education hearing). A map of New Mexico's Indian reservations is appended. (JMM)

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1984 Annual Report

Office of Indian Affairs

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

LA VILLA RIVERA BUILDING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
TELEPHONE: 827-6440

January 18, 1985

The Honorable Toney Anaya
Governor, State of New Mexico
Legislative-Executive Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Dear Governor Anaya:

As required by law, I hereby submit the Annual Report for the Office of Indian Affairs.

As the newly appointed director for the Office of Indian Affairs, I had very little to contribute to the 1984 activities of the staff in their efforts and accomplishments in the area of New Mexico Indian concerns. However, I hope that you will continue to support our office; and I hope we will make even greater strides in the upcoming year to develop a sound working relationship with tribal governments in the state of New Mexico and its various governmental subdivisions, so that all can move ahead in mutual accomplishments.

Respectfully,

Joseph Little
Executive Director

JL/ac

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INTRODUCTION

The Office of Indian Affairs is the administrative arm of the New Mexico Commission on Indian Affairs. The Commission was formed in 1955 by legislative enactment to serve as the coordinating body between tribal governments and local state and federal governments.

Initially, the Commission had a one-man staff, but in 1975, in recognition of the increased political, economical and cultural interaction between tribal, local state and federal governments, the Office of Indian Affairs (OIA) was created.

WHY WE EXIST

New Mexico has some 115,000 Indian citizens (plus an additional 18,000 Indian residents with non-New Mexico tribal affiliation), who compose nearly 10 percent of the state's entire population. Historically, Indian needs and concerns have been largely ignored by government and society in general. But today, these unique citizens are daily increasing their contact with and involvement in the affairs of the state and nation. With this increase in political, economic, and cultural interaction comes the vital need for the OIA.

WHAT WE DO

Under its directives to "investigate, study, consider and act upon the entire subject of Indian conditions and relations within the State of New Mexico, including but not restricted to, problems of health, economy, education, legislation, and local, state and federal government," the OIA assumes a wide range of responsibilities. Some of the OIA's major goals are to:

- Foster a greater awareness of and concern for Indian issues and objectives
- Improve government-to-government relations on all levels within the framework of sovereignty
- Promote economic programs aimed at establishing tribal self-sufficiency
- Support legislation which benefits tribal and state constituents, at their request
- Increase health education and social services through block grants and contractual agreements

Within these broad goals, the OIA conducts many individual programs and activities to realize its ambitious mandate. A partial synopsis of activities conducted by the OIA in 1984 follows.

WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE'RE LOCATED

The OIA staff includes:

JOE LITTLE
Executive Director

REGIS PECOS
Deputy Director

DOLORES CHANDLER
Administrator III

RON MARTINEZ
Tribal Liaison Officer

DANIEL GIBSON
Information Specialist III

BILL LEWIS
Planner II

ANDREITA CORDERO
Secretary II

BECKY NARANJO
Secretary I

While the OIA's duties take staff members around the state, and occasionally to Washington, D.C. and other destinations, the old St. Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe is our administrative center.

For further information on the OIA, write to La Villa Rivera Building, 224 E. Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501, or call (505) 827-6440.

SYNOPSIS of OIA ACTIVITIES in 1984

LEGISLATIVE/GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION, FACILITATION, NEGOTIATION

Legislative Analysis and Action

The Office of Indian Affairs (OIA) worked with the Governor's staff and other departments of state government analyzing bills, acts, memorials, etc., of the 36th Legislature, Special Session, that would have an impact on the state's Indian community. This analysis consisted of obtaining a copy of the original bill (if one existed), or the new amendment or bill, looking at the potential affects of its passage (financially, socially, diplomatically, etc.), and then summarizing these findings. This action helped to direct the Governor's Office and other departments of the executive, as well as members of the legislature, towards support of critical Indian legislation, or their opposition to potentially damaging bills.

The office also assigned a staff member to the Capitol Building during the session to track bills, attend committee hearings, and floor votes. This staff member, in turn, kept tribal groups, legislators and the office staff informed about legislative developments, and helped to gather supporting testimony and speakers for committee hearings. These actions helped to defeat several bills of damaging potential to the Indian community, including distribution of $100,000 to the non-Indian parties of the Aamodt water dispute, and the elimination or raise in the ceiling of prize limits on non-Indian bingo operations. These efforts also helped to ensure passage of several other important pieces of legislation, including the promising amendment to the Joint Powers Agreements Act, authorization for the Health and Environmental Department to plan and coordinate community-based disability programs for minorities, appropriations of $1.5 million for the Low Income Utility Assistance Act, $76,000 to the Pueblo Infant Parent Education Project, $300,000 to San Juan Community College, and $10,000 to the pilot project of Five Sandoval Pueblos, Inc. for a high-value cash crop project.

Congressional Land Claim Action

The acting director of the OIA was chosen as one of the delegates to accompany the governor and councilmen of Cochiti Pueblo to Washington, D.C. to seek support from Congressional delegates for the return of 25,000 acres of the Santa Cruz Springs tract. The OIA was instrumental in developing written testimonies for a religious leader and a councilman in this effort. Through this tactic, OIA's recommendations, and support from Governor Anaya's office and state congressional legislators. Cochiti was returned its land. In July 1984, President Reagan signed the bill (S.2403) into law returning the property to the pueblo's authority.

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Negotiations/Discussions with BIA and Federal Government Entities

The acting director traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with Bureau of Indian Affairs officials to discuss the 25 percent cut in the P.L. 96-638 funds (self-determination grants) for Five Sandoval Indian Pueblos, Inc. This cut was done in violation of Congressional intent, and is part of a larger problem with the BIA the office is becoming increasingly concerned and involved with. This is the lack of tribal input into the BIA's budget process and its administrative management policies. By law, the BIA is supposed to solicit responses and information from tribes about planning and funding priorities, but is not. We have been in contact with our Congressmen about this, and will be looking into the possibility of a Congressional panel being formed to pressure the BIA into compliance.

In line with this interest, the office drafted testimony for tribal administrators to present to a Congressional committee hearing on P.L. 96-638 projects, BIA educational programs and IHS allocations. And, with the president's veto of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, we expect we shall take a lead role in trying to get this particular piece of vital legislation re-authorized in the 1985 Congressional session.

Eastern Navajo Agency Functions

The office helped to coordinate and plan meetings between Chapter Development personnel of the Navajo Nation with administrators and interested parties in various Navajo chapters in New Mexico, especially Pueblo Pintado. These meetings also included attendance by Navajo administrators. They were intended to help clarify the relationship between the chapters and the central Navajo government in Window Rock, to strengthen chapter governments' ability to function independently of Window Rock, and to establish chapter priorities and development plans. These efforts have focused attention on the conditions of the New Mexico chapters, and additional assistance and cooperative planning strategies are now forthcoming.

Position Paper on Santa Ana Pueblo Land Transfer

A staff member researched and wrote a position paper for Governor Anaya's signature on the proposed land transfer to Santa Ana of public lands. As a result, the State of New Mexico endorsed this proposal, and its strong support, along with the paper, helped to see the transfer approved by Congress.

Highway Project Coordination

OIA staff attended meetings with the Tri-County Road Committee and other parties to help plan and coordinate highway construction and improvement projects on Indian lands, and to discuss general concerns, such as the issue of right of ways and the difference between public school bus routes and Headstart bus routes. Projects reviewed included the extension of NM 509 fro Ambrosia Lake to Whitehorse, a new road between Pueblo Pintado and NM 44 (in the planning stages), completion of the road from Johnson Trading Post to Ojo Encino, development of 'Red Dog' pits to use on local roads, and installation of a wide assortment of drainage structures. Completion of all of these projects will make life much more tolerable for residents and assist with economic and social development efforts in the regions the roads serve.

Energy and Minerals Department Master Plan

The office was asked to review the master plan of the Energy and Minerals Department for energy resource use and development in the state. The office suggested that reference be included in the plan about the necessity for including Native American input in any proposals or plans for resource development or use in the state. This suggestion was incorporated in the document.

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Interim Tax Study Committee

The office assisted the state Interim Tax Study Committee in making contacts with tribal governments and state officials for a meeting on Indian taxation, and helped to arrange the first meeting of this committee on an Indian reservation—held during the summer on the Jicarilla Apache lands.

Planning for the International Conference of Native Americans

A staff member assisted in the preliminary planning for the 1985 International Conference of Native Americans, which will be held in Santa Fe. This is to be a major event, with representation of Indian cultures from Central, South and North America, as well as the U.S. State Department, the United Nations, and other local, national and international organizations.

Taos Airport Expansion

The office worked as an intermediary between the Governor's Office and other branches of state government and the Pueblo of Taos on the plans for possible expansion of Taos Airport. While only in the preliminary stages, this project will continue to require a high degree of cooperation and negotiation for all parties to reach a satisfactory agreement.

Field Visits

The office conducted numerous field visits with the Pueblos, Apaches and Navajos. These informal sessions were to provide introductions between OIA staff and tribal program personnel, and to exchange information on a wide range of subjects, including OIA functions and forms of assistance it can provide tribal groups, needs and problems the tribes are experiencing, recommendations on areas the OIA should focus its attention, JTPA and job information, legislative action, state alcoholism projects, highway projects, and numerous other state programs and services.

Foreign Contacts

The office played host, arranged tours or completed other tasks on behalf of several foreign nations. These included arrangements for representatives of Germany, the Mexican city of Chihuahua, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Japan, as well as for domestic organizations like the Partnership for Democracy (a group sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency and composed of high-ranking Latin American political leaders).

INFORMATIONAL SERVICES

Newsletter

The office gathered information, wrote, designed and oversaw production and distribution of five issues of the OIA newsletter, *The Source*. This newsletter is mailed and hand-distributed to personnel of state government, the federal government (both local and in Washington), tribal governments (both local and out-of-state), Indian commissions nationwide, all the media of the state, and private Indian organizations nationwide.

Each 12-page issue took an in-depth look at a specific subject of importance, and was intended to educate and inform both the layman and those with a refined interest in Indian affairs on pressing Indian problems and conditions. Only when people are aware of a problem can they begin to address it. The newsletter also served to inform people about success stories and Indian hopes, and provided summaries of resources, state and national legislation, and other vital information for addressing these needs and hopes. Issues were devoted to these areas: Indian economic development and employment, Indians and the governmental/legislative process, Indian health, Indian arts and culture, and Indian education. Comments and compliments on *The Source* have been received from across the state and nation.

Legislative Reports

A staff member compiled and distributed a weekly summary of legislative activities of particular importance for tribal administrators and others interested in Indian affairs during the legislative session. These reports tracked bills, letting those interested in their progress know where they were at any given time (in the committee hearing process, on the floor, killed, etc.), and analyzed them for their potential impact on the Indian community. These reports helped to mobilize an informed body of constituents to support positive Indian legislation, and to speak out against potentially damaging legislation. Though it is impossible to say with absolute certainty, it is believed these reports and other legislative activities (see below and in section on Legislative/Governmental Coordination) conducted by the OIA on behalf of tribal groups resulted in one of the best sessions for Native Americans in recent years.

Appropriation Study

The OIA undertook a study to determine for the first time the total scope of services and programs (and their dollar value) being expended by the state on Indian individuals or groups serving Indian people. The study also tracked federal flow-through dollars provided to tribes through state offices. This comprehensive study is the first of its kind, and will enable planners to make decisions based on knowledge and need rather than assumption, which saves time, energy and money. It will provide legislators with a tool to compare allocations to Indians versus non-Indians, state offices with a clear picture of their services to Indians, and tribal officials with data on where the state's money is going, and whether or not these income flows are rising or falling.

To conduct this survey, the OIA had to design a format for the questionnaire form, hand-distribute it to all the departments, divisions, agencies and offices of state government, and explain the survey to them. Then came the long process of ensuring the response forms were filled out and returned to us. These forms were then cleaned up, and a summary of each department written. Then the material was organized by the office into a "book" and sent to a copy shop to be reproduced. Last, it was distributed to state offices, and legislators and tribal groups.

Legislative Information

Members of the staff met with tribal leaders and program personnel frequently during the legislative session to discuss specific legislation and the legislative process in general. The office provided these people with information packages concerning the legislators, make-up of committees, room assignments, etc., copies of bills, and OIA analyses of these bills.

Tribal Government/State Government Conference

Our office took the lead role in planning and running a conference entitled "Tribal Government/State Government: In the Spirit of Cooperation." This conference was held in Albuquerque on August 16-17. The office organized the agenda, contacted all the speakers and assigned them their discussion topics; wrote a press release and confirmed print, radio and TV coverage; found and reserved the conference space; organized a dinner held in conjunction with the conference; coordinated the attendance of representatives from all branches of state government and all 22 tribal groups; and lined up the speakers, including Governor Anaya, several cabinet secretaries, spokespeople from the offices of Senator Jeff Bingaman and Representative Bill Richardson, Edward T. Begay—vice chairman of the Navajo Nation, and Wendell Chino—president of the Mescalero Apache. The conference served several purposes: it educated tribal leaders and personnel about the legislative process and how they can have more input into the process; the way state and department budgets are formed and how they can affect this process; the process of tax collection and distribution; and reviewed implementation of the Joint Powers Agreements Act and economic development initiatives the state can assist tribes with. It also provided for face-to-face meetings between tribal personnel and state government personnel, and a forum for state government to listen to the needs and concerns of tribal governments.

Conference on the Joint Powers Agreements Act

The office arranged a day-long conference in Albuquerque on the Joint Powers Agreements Act amendment on behalf of tribal administrators, state personnel, and the BIA. Representative Leo Watchman (sponsor of the bill) was the principal speaker at the conference, along with John Ramming of the Governor's office. This conference helped to dispel some of the misconceptions of the amendment and opened the doors for tribal groups to begin implementing this important piece of legislation.

Legislative Seminars

The OIA presented a series of four day-long seminars in December on the state legislative process to interested tribal officials, county commissioners, land board members, and tribal personnel. The seminars were held at Santa Clara pueblo, Sandia pueblo, Crownpoint (the Navajo Skills Center) and Shiprock (the chapter house), and included presentations on many vital aspects of the legislative process by state senators and representatives (including House Speaker Ray Sanchez, minority whip Tom Rutherford, Louis Sanchez, Nick Salazar, Albert Shirley, Roger Madalena, Thomas Atcitty, Tweeti Blancett and Robert W. Johnson), representatives from the Governor's Office, the director of the Legislative Council Service, State Auditor Al Romero, and the OIA.

In the past, Native American administrators and leaders have lacked information on the legislative process: why bills pass or fail, how a bill is born, how one can provide input at committee hearings, etc., while legislators lacked information on the needs of concerns of their Indian constituents. The result was an avoidance of the legislative process by Native Americans. This series of seminars was designed to meet these shortcomings head-on.

Public, Tribal and Governmental Information Assistance

A staff member responded to numerous requests from the general public for information on New Mexico's Indian people, such as population figures, locations of reservations, history, voting patterns, and a wide range of other subjects. The office also provided printed and visual materials to non-Indian governments, agencies and employees about the state's tribes, and drafted speeches, telegrams and positions papers for Governor Anaya and other cabinet members regarding Indians issues. And, the office also provided informational assistance to tribes, composing press releases for them, assisting with production of brochures, providing mailing lists, writing resolutions, responding to derogatory articles on Indians in the local and national press, and issuing reports explaining state government policies and programs. All this information, like our newsletter, serves to increase knowledge of—and thus understanding and openness towards—Indians among non-Indians, and knowledge among tribal governments and individuals of resources and processes that can be of help to them.

Annual Report

A staff member wrote, designed and oversaw production and distribution of OIA 1983 annual report. This document outlined the office's activities and provided state government departments and personnel, tribal groups and other parties with a glimpse of what the office did, can do and does. This is important as most people have no idea of the office's functions and objectives.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

Job Training Partnership Act

The OIA was extensively involved in the Indian implementation of the Job Partnership Training Act (JTPA) program. (JTPA is essentially a revision of the old CETA program, except it goes beyond training to provide actual jobs.) Numerous meetings were attended by the OIA and scheduled by the OIA on behalf of tribal groups, including discussions with the Employment Security Division concerning Title II-A general funds, the Native American Advisory Council, State JTPA program personnel, the Job Training Coordinating Council's executive committee, the Private Industry Council and the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Consortium. From these many discussions, several important results were achieved. Because of lower than expected allocations, tribal groups had to change their plans for JTPA funding to direct delivery from the balance of State JTPA funds. The OIA was instrumental in seeing several pueblos funded under this process. In other cases, the OIA helped two tribal groups, Isleta pueblo and the Canoncito Navajo Band, obtain agreements with the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Consortium to receive the same services as provided to non-Indians, including job and classroom training, work experience, and job counseling, regardless of the appropriations received through the Title II-A program. The value of this particular set-aside was $21,770. The office is now working with the State Job Coordinating Training Council of JTPA to clear up and resolve additional questions concerning Native American set-asides in this important program.

Tribal Initiatives

The OIA worked closely with several tribal governments to try and promote greater interest and expertise in the area of tribal economic development initiatives. A letter was sent to each of the pueblos stating our office was interested in assisting them with their economic plans, and that we would be visiting with them to discuss their interests and problem areas. Visits were made with Laguna, Isleta, Jemez, Sandia and Five Sandoval Pueblos, Inc. On behalf of Isleta, which is interested in small business ventures (among other things), the office contacted the State Purchasing Agent to discuss types of contracts the pueblo could possibly secure. The office also set up a meeting between economic planners of Jemez and representatives of the Economic Development and Tourism Department, the Game and Fish Department, and the Forestry Division to discuss the tribe's interest in expanding timber cutting and control, in establishing a big game hunting program, and maintenance of their fishing resources.

The OIA helped Santa Clara look into grant possibilities for tourism promotion, and funding methods for establishing a tribally-owned trailer court and fish hatchery. The office also held discussions on the possibility of pueblo-by-pueblo direct grant funding for northern pueblos, versus the present system of grants normally going to Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc., and then being divided up among the northern pueblos.

The office has also been sending out printed information on economic development practices and resources, and will continue to meet with tribal planners during the next year to assist them with their plans.

Heavy Equipment Operator Training

The OIA brought together the Navajo Department of Chapter Development and an Albuquerque firm named Superior Training Services (STS) with the intention of placing Navajos into a training program in heavy equipment or truck driving operations. Many young Navajos are interested in these fields, and with increased development of Navajo resources, roads and manufacturing potential will come the need for such skills. Some 15 Navajos are now in STS' program, and another 11 are preparing to enter as a result of these contacts.

Highway Labor Contracts

A staff member attended several meetings to help clarify the implementation of the Zuni Labor Code and the state's Indian Preference Code on highway projects being conducted or planned on the Zuni reservation. As a result, a clearer understanding was reached, and employment opportunities for the Zuni people were improved.

TERO

The OIA represented Governor Anaya at the national Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) conference this year, and followed up that responsibility with discussions on establishing a local TERO operation in New Mexico. TERO provides training and technical assistance to tribes involved in economic development initiatives, and also enforces compliance of minority hiring and purchasing laws among private and public employers. We are now identifying a local reservation where TERO might establish their state office, and shall continue to provide assistance to this helpful organization.

Employment/Economic Development Information Assistance

The OIA provided answers to numerous requests from Indians and non-Indians concerning jobs or economic development opportunities, including information on mineral and land leases on Indian lands, SBA and general loan sources, and specific job possibilities with state government, federal government and private employers. The office met with major private employers, like Sandia Labs and Intel, to discuss their Indian hiring practices.

The office helped to find and process Indian high schol graduate and college student interns for summer employment with state government. While their employment was only temporary, it allowed them to see what working for the state is like and helped them to establish contacts they might be able to use in the future to secure full-time employment.

Economic Development and Tourism Reports

The office submitted a report to Bill Weahkee, assistant secretary of economic development of the Economic Development and Tourism Development (ED&T), consisting of profiles on various pueblos. These profiles included population, land area, location, resources (both human and natural), cultural assets, history, industrial sites, and other information. They wil be used to answer many requests ED&T is beginning to receive from outside developers for information about the pueblos as possible locations for businesses.

Picuris Museum

The OIA initiated a project with Picuris Pueblo to reopen their tribal museum. This project involved preliminary duscussions with Picuris administrators, then organization of a meeting between Picuris, the OIA, a state official of Museum Services, and a half dozen other people involved in museum work in northern New Mexico. From these meetings a plan of action was drawn up by the OIA for presentation to the Picuris Tribal Council. With the council's approval of the plan, work will immediately begin on the reopening, which shall involve a complex network of cooperative agreements and assistance between federal, state, private and tribal personnel and resources. Reopening the museum will bring additional income to the pueblo. It will also serve as a source of community pride, and help to educate the public and tribal members in the history and culture of Picurs. And, a tribal member will probably receive museum training through the Smithsonian Institute—an additional benefit—to oversee the museum.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

LIHEAP and Weatherization

The OIA has continued to be an active advocate for the state's 22 tribal groups concerning the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Weatherization programs. We made several site visits to update tribal administrators on the FY 85 funding levels, and to give them technical assistance with their application forms as needed. More importantly, however, we were instrumental in establishing the first direct federal funding of Indian LIHEAP allocations in the state, by compiling needed documents and information, and scheduling meetings between the tribes and staff of the Human Services Department. In the past three years, Sandoval county has been allocated weatherization monies for tribes, but no services were provided. With direct funding, some $113,822 was transferred to these same tribes in 1984 for weatherization projects. This has allowed for the weatherization of up to 15 homes in each of the respective pueblos, as well as assistance with utility costs.

Taos Pueblo Disaster Funding

Through the intervention of the OIA, Taos pueblo was finally awarded funds for the damages incurred during the 1983 spring floods. This money, approximately $15,000, had been appropriated to the Office of Emergency Preparedness for Taos pueblo but had never been delivered to the pueblo. The office is now working on release of 1984 disaster funds.

Taos Pueblo Fire Protection

The OIA lent assistance to Taos pueblo's efforts to upgrade their fire protection in compliance with state fire codes. Information was gathered and a request for additional funding was submitted to the state Fire Marshall's Office. Meetings were arranged and attended with the pueblo, the Community Assistance Council and the Fire Marshall's Office in these efforts, as well as with the federal government, and to seek a federal loan for the improvement project. This is an on-going activity.

Picuris Flood Damages

The Pueblo of Picuris suffered extensive flood damage following a heavy spring run-off. On May 15, Governor Anaya declared Taos County a flood disaster area, which freed state and federal funds for relief work. The OIA worked with Picuris pueblo on an assessment and report of the damages, which included moderate to severe damage to a road, concrete diversion structures, culverts, and rip-rap lining along the Rio Pueblo. A value of the damages was placed at $105,000. However, disbursement of these funds is still tied up in red tape.

Urban Mass Transit Authority Funds

The office reviewed applications procedures for Urban Mass Transit Authority funding, and served on advisory committee of the Authority. As a result, four tribal groups received $62,160 for transportation projects.

Indian Tourism Promotion Fund

A staff member met with Gene Stram of the Tourism Division to initiate high-level discussions about the possibility of establishing a state fund devoted to promotion of Indian tourism by Indians. The state has a one-to-one matching tourism funding formula now, but tribal groups often cannot provide the match. This program would provide outright grants. Though our advocacy failed in this effort, we are now considering seeking a direct allocation from the state legislature for such a program.

HEALTH

Indian Senior Citizens Centers

The OIA played a role in the recent historic signing of a joint powers agreement between the State Agency on Aging and the Navajo Nation and Zuni pueblo. This agreement provides the Navajo Nation with $325,000 to renovate and equip senior citizen centers on the reservation, and the Pueblo of Zuni with $75,000 for similar work. The OIA was instrumental in passage of the amendment to the Joint Powers Agreements Act that allowed for the contract to be entered into, and also sat in on the negotiations to draw up the actual document and define the areas of responsibilities for the parties involved.

Santa Clara Rehabilitation Center

A staff member met with the Santa Clara Rehabilitation Center director to tour their facility and review their programs for our newsletter issue devoted to Indian health. This visit resulted in an additional benefit: the director turned over to the OIA its tentative expansion plan blueprints. The OIA has since secured a commitment from the Design Planning Assistance Center at the University of New Mexico to provide complete and detailed architectural drawings and renderings for the expansion and renovation of the center, which is severely over-crowded and run down. The value of this assistance is estimated to be over $35,000. The office also assisted the center in transporting three mobile home trailers to the site as a temporary means of increasing their limited space.

IHS Funds

The OIA drafted resolutions for tribal groups and letters from our office to Congress opposing the Waxman amendments to the Indian Health Service's (IHS) 1985 budget, which would have stripped millions of dollars away from sorely-needed local Indian health projects. The Waxman amendments failed.

Plague Project

The office worked with the other members of the statewide Committee on Plague Prevention to develop educational materials for distribution to Indian people on the characteristics of plague, how to recognize its symptoms, how to treat it, etc. This project was initiated in recognition of that fact that Indians suffer from this illness to a much greater degree than the population as a whole. At this point, it is too soon to judge the results of this project.

Albuquerque Urban Indian Elders

The OIA assisted the Albuquerque Urban Indian Elders with their attempts to become a recognized provider of elderly services by the State Agency on Aging. This work has been rewarded by negotiations on provision of funding and purchase of a van and other materials for the group by the state.

Health Planning Priorities

A staff member responded to a request from the Health Planning Development Bureau to draw up a summary of the five most serious health issues affecting New Mexico's Indians. This information will be used by the bureau to plan and prioritize service programs to Native Americans in the upcoming fiscal year.

Navajo Elderly Program

The office worked with the New Mexico Human Services Department, the Navajo Aging Office and the Pueblo Pintado Chapter to develop a pilot project in the Pueblo Pintado Chapter. This project will integrate children into the elderly programs, such as their meal services, with the hope that this interaction will benefit both the children and the elderly.

EDUCATION

Indian Higher Education Hearing

A staff member of the OIA chaired a committee for the Board of Educational Finance's (BEF) hearing on Indian Higher Education, held in Albuquerque in September. This staff member was responsible for presenting testimony on the state and federal role in higher education of Native Americans. His comments will become part of the hearing's official record and will be used by the BEF to draw up its list of recommendations to the State Legislature on improving Indian higher education in New Mexico.

BIA-State Teacher Training

The office worked with Betty Walker, of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' education department, and the State Department of Education to initiate training workshops in special education techniques for Native American teachers. Preliminary discussions have been held and work is continuing on this project.

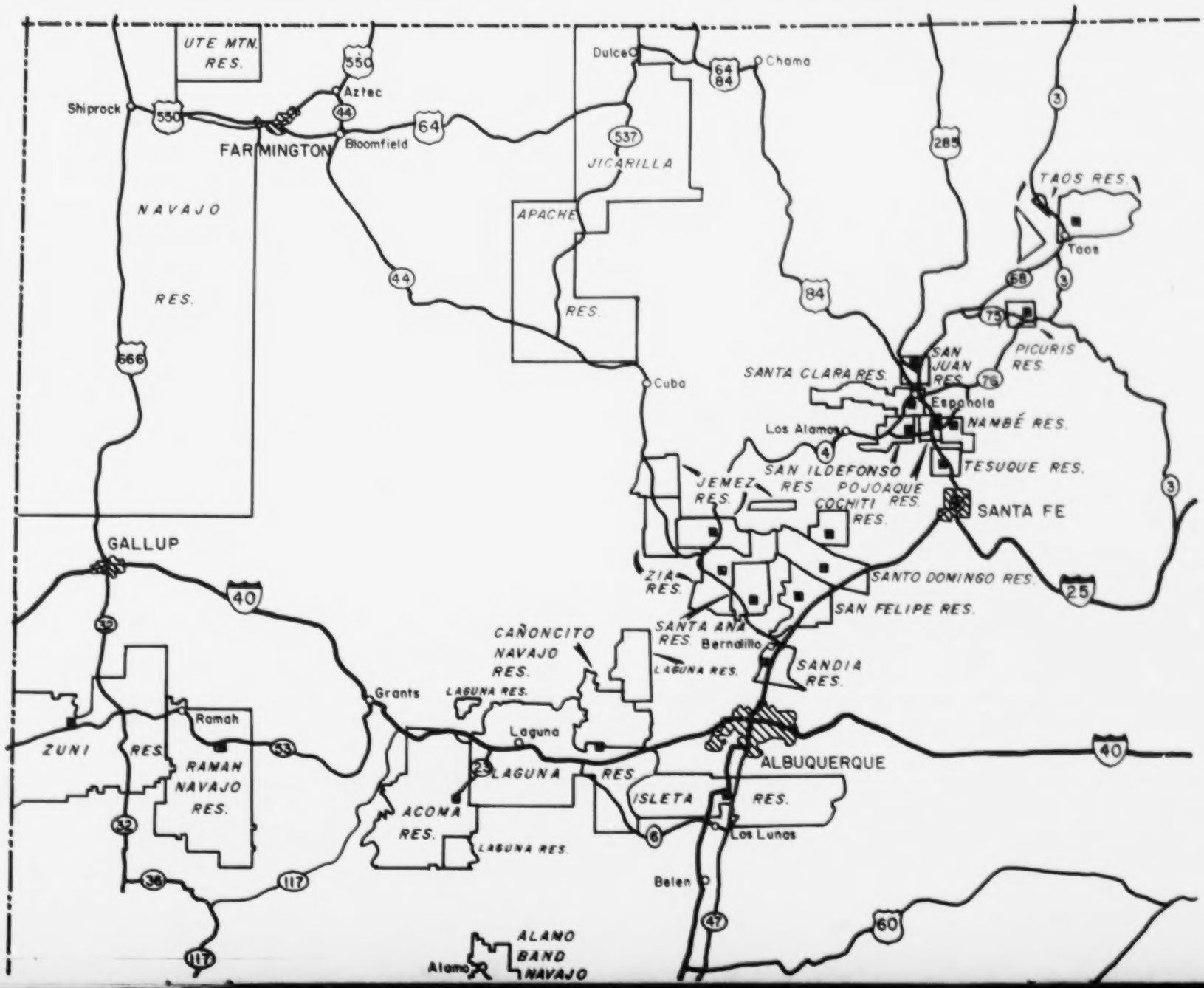
Newsletter

A special issue of the OIA newsletter, *The Source*, was devoted to the subject of Indian education, and included articles of both local importance and of national significance. It portrayed some of the programs that are successfully meeting the needs of Indian students, and some of the major obstacles facing Indian students and Indian educators. Of the 12 articles included, one story explained recent federal legislation affecting Indian education, and another provided a guide to scholarship sources for Indian students.

Indian Career Day

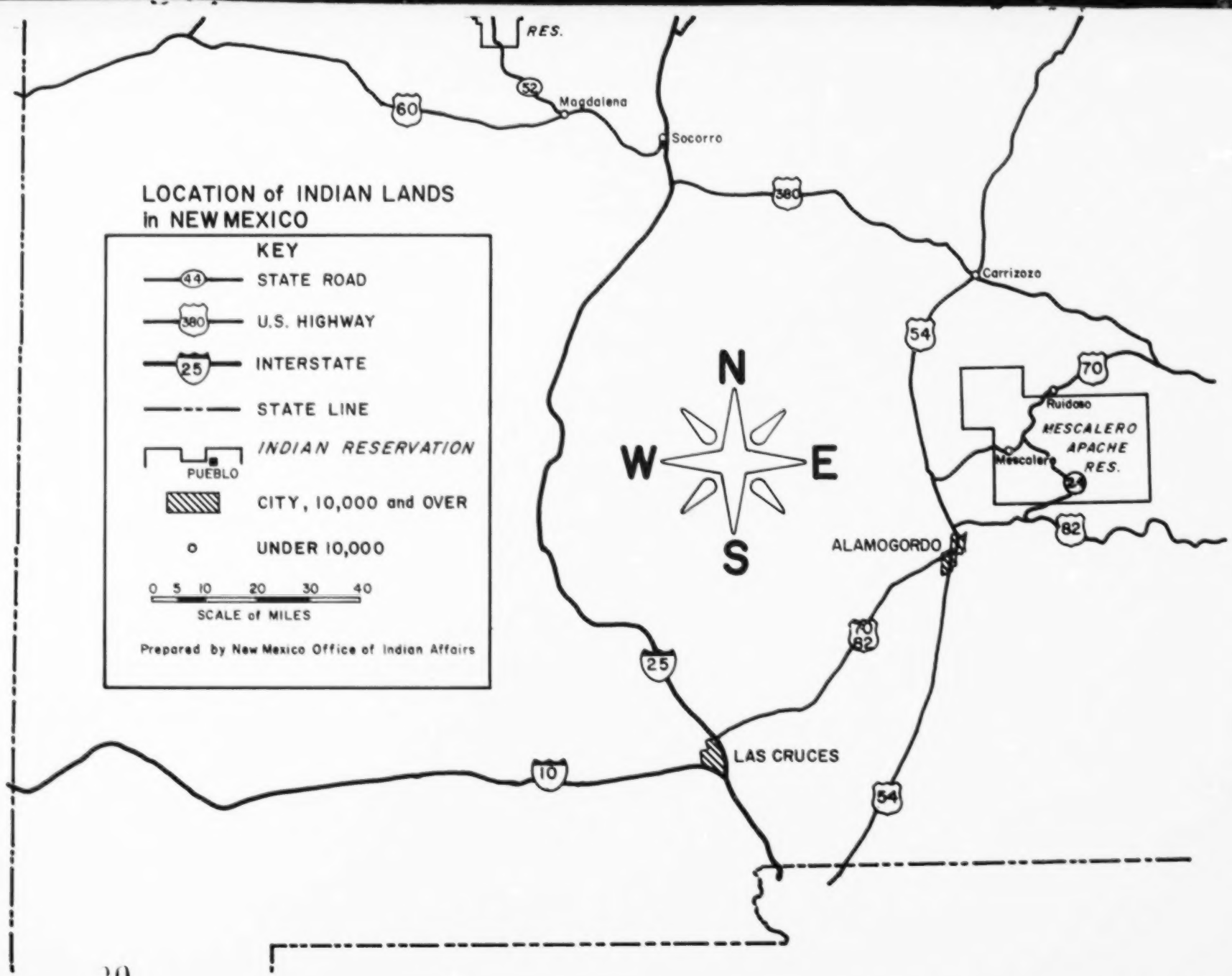
A member of the staff attended the St. Catherine Indian School Career Day, participating as a speaker and manning a booth. The staff member's talk focused on career opportunities with state government and the functions of the OIA.

NEW MEXICO INDIAN RESERVATIONS



18

19


LOCATION of INDIAN LANDS
in NEW MEXICO
KEY
44 STATE ROAD
380 U.S. HIGHWAY
25 INTERSTATE
STATE LINE
INDIAN RESERVATION
PUEBLO
CITY, 10,000 and OVER
UNDER 10,000
0 5 10 20 30 40
SCALE of MILES
Prepared by New Mexico Office of Indian Affairs
RES.
52
Magdalena
60
Socorro
380
Carrizozo
54
70
Ruidoso
MESCALERO
APACHE
RES.
Mescalero
N
W
E
S
ALAMOGORDO
82
70
82
25
LAS CRUCES
10
54